

JILL DILLARD vs CITY OF SPRINGDALE
SEEWALD, JESSA on 09/13/2021

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
FAYETTEVILLE DIVISION

JILL DILLARD, JESSA SEEWALD,)
JINGER VUOLO, and JOY DUGGAR,)
PLAINTIFFS,)
VS.)

CITY OF SPRINGDALE, ARKANSAS;)
WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS;)
KATHY O'KELLEY, in her Individual)
and Official Capacities; ERNEST)
CATE, in his Individual and)
Official Capacities; RICK HOYT,)
in his Individual and Official)
Capacities; STEVE ZEGA, in his)
Official Capacity;)
Does 1-10, Inclusive,)
DEFENDANTS.)

CASE NO.
17-CV-05089-TLB

ORAL AND VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF

JESSA SEEWALD

September 13, 2021

ORAL AND VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF JESSA SEEWALD,
produced as a witness at the instance of the
DEFENDANTS, and duly sworn, was taken in the
above-styled and numbered cause on the 13th day of
September, 2021, from 10:03 a.m. to 2:57 p.m., before
Tammie L. Foreman, CCR in and for the State of
Arkansas, RPR, CRR, reported by machine shorthand, via
audio-video conference, pursuant to the Federal Rules
of Civil Procedure.



www.ArkansasRealtime

EXHIBIT

tabbles

JILL DILLARD vs CITY OF SPRINGDALE
SEEWALD, JESSA on 09/13/2021

59

1 Q. Do you know who that person is?

2 A. I do.

3 Q. Okay. Do you know if that is the only person
4 not a member of your family that was molested by Josh?

5 A. Yes. To the best of my knowledge.

6 Q. Okay. To your knowledge and understanding, did
7 Josh ever molest any of his brothers?

8 A. No, he didn't.

9 Q. There's something in here about someone in the
10 laundry room. Was that you? Were you molested by
11 Josh in the laundry room?

12 A. No. Really? Why is it so important to know?

13 Q. To know what?

14 A. To know to put a name with it when there isn't a
15 name? Why are you trying to unredact?

16 Q. Well, that's your whole lawsuit, right? That
17 it's already unredacted. That everybody figured it
18 out immediately, right?

19 A. They may know our identity, but they don't know
20 exactly the name with the exact experience. We never
21 went out and said, here's exactly my story. But they
22 know these four girls experienced these things and
23 there's details, vivid details.

24 Q. How do they know that Jana is not one of the
25 four?

JILL DILLARD vs CITY OF SPRINGDALE
SEEWALD, JESSA on 09/13/2021

60

1 MR. BLEDSOE: Object to the form.

2 A. You can probably figure out by, like, age of the
3 youngest and a few other factors that would, like,
4 disclose your identity.

5 Q. Do you know if Jana has ever publically denied
6 being one of Josh's molestation victims?

7 A. I don't know. But even then, so what if one
8 person gets a free pass? Like, I don't know honestly.
9 You're still all -- you're still all in the same boat
10 together. Like, you're still the four sisters of
11 Josh Duggar who experienced all these horrible things.

12 Q. As far as you know, it's not public as we sit
13 here today exactly what was done to each of you by
14 name, right?

15 MR. BLEDSOE: Object to the form.

16 A. Not that I am aware of. I never went on
17 Megyn Kelly and said let me tell you every detail.

18 Q. Well, let me ask you about the example I used
19 earlier. As far as you know, as we sit here today,
20 has it been publically disclosed who was molested by
21 Josh in the laundry room?

22 MR. BLEDSOE: Object to the form.

23 A. I don't feel like answering those specifics
24 because that's -- our whole lawsuit is about juvenile
25 records illegally released. And I feel like you're --

**JILL DILLARD vs CITY OF SPRINGDALE
SEEWALD, JESSA on 09/13/2021**

61

1 you're pressing me for something that is very private,
2 very intimate in my life, and something that I never
3 wished to be out there in the first place. And I'd
4 rather not have you have a list of everything that was
5 coming against me. One second. I have to charge my
6 laptop, plug it in.

7 Q. Sure. I thought you had told me just a few
8 minutes ago that you were not molested by Josh in the
9 laundry room.

10 A. I wasn't.

11 Q. Okay. So do you know one way or the other
12 whether it has ever been made public who was molested
13 by Josh in the laundry room?

14 MR. BLEDSOE: Object to the form.

15 A. I don't know.

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. Why are you so obsessed with that, though? I
18 mean, like, why?

19 Q. Obsessed?

20 A. I mean, like, why is it so important for you to
21 have the names?

22 MR. BLEDSOE: Jessa, don't argue with
23 him. I understand this is really
24 uncomfortable, and it's kind of gross,
25 honestly. But we've just got to let him ask

JILL DILLARD vs CITY OF SPRINGDALE
SEEWALD, JESSA on 09/13/2021

62

1 his questions and get through today.

2 But I think we all understand where
3 you're coming from, but there's no sense
4 arguing with the questioner because -- so
5 just listen to the next question and answer
6 it to the best of your ability.

7 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

8 Q. So when you read the report, I could see where
9 maybe you knew where your name fit. How would
10 somebody, a member of the general public, know where
11 your name fit?

12 MR. BLEDSOE: Object to the form.

13 A. I think it's enough that they knew that I was a
14 sister.

15 Q. Okay. That's your assertion in this lawsuit is
16 that they knew four of the five sisters at that time
17 were molested in some way -- in one of the ways
18 described in the report?

19 A. That's right.

20 MR. BLEDSOE: Object to the form.

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. I would say so.

23 Q. And what was that last answer? You said --

24 A. I would say so.

25 Q. Okay. Do you remember if there was an elder at



JILL DILLARD vs CITY OF SPRINGDALE
SEEWALD, JESSA on 09/13/2021

63

1 your church that was an ex-prison guard?

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. Who was that?

4 A. Clark Wilson. He's deceased.

5 Q. He is? Okay.

6 A. Yes. He passed away of cancer.

7 Q. Sorry to hear that. What was his wife's name?

8 A. Denise Wilson.

9 Q. Denise? Is she still living in Springdale?

10 A. No, sir. She doesn't live in Springdale
11 anymore. They lived here for quite a while.

12 Q. Okay. Have they moved out of state -- has she
13 moved out of state?

14 A. Yes, sir.

15 Q. Okay. In the week of the redacted disclosures
16 and police reports, and the various articles and
17 things that were published, did y'all receive any
18 messages of support?

19 A. I mean, I'm sure we did. I'm sure some people
20 said, like, "I'm praying for you."

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. "Sorry you have to go through this," something
23 like that. I mean, I'm sure there were people saying
24 some things like that.

25 Q. Did you receive any negative messages in the